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Washington LABOR MARKET

Washington State
Employment Security

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In cooperation with the
Employment and Training
Administration
U.S. Department of Labor

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Highlights

State and National Economy Remain Strong

Debate continues over whether the economy is slowing or not; and if the growth rate is declining, whether the reduction will be sufficient to prevent inflation from escalating. Meanwhile, labor market conditions in the state and nation are exceptionally strong; unemployment rates are near their lowest levels of the decade. In both the state and nation, however, areas of high unemployment persist; in contrast to the overall national jobless rate of 5.4 percent in August, the rate in Louisiana was 10.0 percent, and compared with the overall unemployment rate of 6.1 percent in Washington State, the rate in Okanogan County was 14.2 percent (rates are not seasonally adjusted).

Farm Jobs Decline In August

Both employment and unemployment declined in Washington State during the month of August. The employment reduction, however, resulted entirely from the

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	August 1988* (Prel.)	July 1988 (Rev.)	August 1987
Civilian Labor Force	2,340,400	2,353,600	2,270,300
Total Employment	2,197,700	2,201,800	2,117,500
Total Unemployment	142,700	151,800	152,800
State Unemployment Rate	6.1	6.4	6.7
National Civilian Unemployment Rate	5.4	5.5	5.8

*These data represent alternative estimates of labor force conditions developed by the State Employment Security Department. They are more comparable with data released in previous years than are the official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates developed for federal program purposes. (Data in this table are not seasonally adjusted.)

drop in farm jobs that followed the asparagus, cherry, strawberry and raspberry harvests. Washington's farms continued to employ thousands of seasonal workers in the potato, pear, and summer vegetable harvests during August, but total employment slipped 4,100 from July.

After seasonal adjustment, total employment fell 4,000 in August. The drop likely represented a partially pullback from July when employment was unusually high because of overlaping harvests. And despite the decline in August, total employment in the state was up 80,200, or 3.8 percent, over the year.

Unemployment Down Seasonally

Total unemployment in Washington State fell from 151,800 and 6.4 percent of the labor force in July to 142,700 and 6.1 percent in August. All of the reduction resulted from growth in nonfarm employment. Except in a few areas, the decline in seasonal farm jobs had little effect on unemployment; migrant farmworkers moved on to new jobs in other areas and many local workers withdrew from the job market. Many of these workers will reenter the workforce in September and October during the apple harvest.

Adjusted Jobless Rate Levels Off

After seasonal adjustment, the state's jobless rate edged down from 6.6 to 6.5 percent from July to August. The adjusted rate, however, has moved in a narrow range between 6.4 and

6.7 percent from May through August, following substantial reductions earlier in the year. Nonetheless, the number of jobless workers in the state has declined more than 10,000 over the year, and the adjusted rate in August 1987 was 7.2 percent compared to 6.5 percent this August.

The national adjusted unemployment rate has also been relatively stable in recent months following sizable reductions between August 1987 and March 1988. Since March it has ranged from 5.3 to 5.6 percent, its August level.

Jobless Rates Vary Widely By Worker Group

The characteristics of the unemployed from the national household survey provide insights on the unemployment situation not available for Washington State. Similar trends likely prevail in this state, though.

While the overall unemployment rate nationally was 5.6 percent in August (seasonally adjusted), rates for specific worker groups varied widely. There was little difference in rates for adult men (4.9 percent) and adult women (4.8 percent), but the rate for teens aged 16-19 was 15.8 percent. The high rate, despite obvious shortages of entry level workers in many areas, reflects frequent movement into and out of jobs in search of employment more suitable to their individual needs, e.g., a job with hours and a location permitting them to continue their education or one which provides better pay or opportunity for advancement.

While the rate for white workers was 4.9 percent, the rates for blacks and hispanics were a respective 11.3 percent and 8.4 percent. The rate for married men with spouse present was a low 3.4 percent. Women who maintained families, however, had a jobless rate more than twice as great, 7.4 percent. Rates also varied widely by occupation, ranging from a low of 2.1 percent for technicians and related support workers to 12.3 percent for construction laborers. Generally the more education and experience required for a job, the lower the unemployment rate.

Only 46 Percent of Jobless Lost Last Job

Not all unemployed workers lost their last job. In fact only 46 percent of the unemployed in August were job losers. Nearly 15 percent quit their last job, almost 28 percent were reentering the job market after an absence (illness, school, home responsibilities, etc.),

and 12 percent were looking for their first job. Job losers are the individuals most likely to be qualified for and receiving unemployment compensation. Total unemployment estimates for both the state and nation, however, include all jobless workers, not just those receiving unemployment insurance benefits.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENTS

Nonfarm Jobs Up

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment continued to advance in August, adding 11,300 jobs from July. Most, but not all of the increase was seasonal with the largest gains in wholesale and retail trade, construction, service industries and food processing. Gains in these and other industries, however, were partially offset by a further summer decline in public education.

Tourists Keep Restaurants Busy

Wholesale and retail trade employment moved up 4,300 in August with 1,400 additional jobs on the wholesale level and 2,900 at retail outlets. Most of the expansion in wholesale trade was credited to fruit and vegetable merchants who were busy packing and shipping summer produce. Other wholesalers added staff to serve a growing retail sector. Restaurants accounted for about half the gain in retail trade with summer tourist business at its peak. Back-to-school shopping and the opening of new stores also boosted retail payrolls in August.

Building Trades Add 3,700 Workers

Employment in construction rose 3,700 in August as work in the building trades approached its seasonal peak; usually in September. Growth in the industry has exceeded seasonal expectations this year; and over the year construction employment has increased 14,100 or nearly 15 percent. A vigorous commercial building sector in the central Puget Sound area deserves credit for most of the year-to-year growth. In addition, home building, including multi-family units, has held up better in the Puget Sound area than in other parts of the nation because of above average employment and population growth.

County Fair Time

Summer activities boosted employment in the service industries this August. Hotels-motels and service stations hired staff to serve tourists and county fairs provided temporary employment for hundreds of workers across the state. Personnel supply agencies added workers

who they placed at firms requiring vacation-replacement workers.

Health Care Jobs Down

Private education (included in services) fell as expected in August, but health services employment also declined. While the drop in medical care payrolls was only 300, it followed a drop of 100 in July. This may signal a change in the long-term growth trend in the industry. Health services on the national level posted a below average increase in August. The health care industry has apparently begun to feel the competition and cost pressures long faced by other industries.

In other nonmanufacturing industries, government civilian payrolls fell 4,800 in August almost entirely due to seasonal reductions in public education. September, of course, will see a reversal of this trend as the regular school year begins and hundreds of bus drivers, cafeteria workers and other support staff are recalled to their jobs. (Certificated personnel are considered employed all year since they are paid on a twelve-month basis.)

Transportation, communications and utilities payrolls rose 800 in August with farm-to-market hauling being a major factor. Finance, insurance and real estate added 200 with nearly all of the gain in real estate; banking and other credit agencies cut employment slightly as continuing competitive pressures forced mergers and other cost saving measures.

Canning Time Adds Manufacturing Jobs

Manufacturing employment jumped 5,000 in August with most of the gain in food processing. Though cannery and freezing plant jobs fell 2,000 in July when work on the asparagus crop was completed, they rebounded 3,100 in August as processing of summer fruits and vegetables began. Washington State ranks first in the nation in the processing carrots, third in green peas and fourth in sweet corn. The increase in canned and preserved foods was augmented by a seasonal increase of 700 at firms producing a wide variety of food products such as beverages and snack items.

Aerospace Still On Uptrend

Aerospace payrolls added 400 in August to bring its total gain so far in 1988 to 3,800. For the past two years, employment forecasts have predicted that aerospace payrolls would stabilize; these have been obviously premature.

July-August employment changes in other manufacturing industries were relatively minor. Fabricated metal products added 300 workers in response to growing orders from the construction industry, while machinery payrolls rose 300 in response to growing domestic and foreign demand. Employment in the lumber industry was relatively unchanged with 1,600 workers on strike in July and 1,700 in August. The disputes were settled in late August and early September, but fire hazard conditions in the latter month restricted logging activity across the state.

Manufacturings Jobs Up From Year Ago

Nonagricultural wage and salary employment in the state was up 83,600 over the year in August. Most of the new jobs were in the nonmanufacturing industries, especially services (up 24,500), retail trade (up 17,900) and construction (up 14,100). Manufacturing employment also contributed 12,100 despite this year's labor dispute in the lumber industry. Compared with a 4.7 percent job increase over the year in the nonmanufacturing industries, manufacturing payrolls increased 3.7 percent. And after adjustment for the labor dispute in lumber this year, employment in the state's manufacturing sector was up 4.3 percent.

Though aerospace employment rose 7,800 year to year to account for over 60 percent of the new manufacturing jobs, other industries have also posted significant gains in the past twelve months. "Other transportation equipment" added 1,800 jobs thanks to growth at firms building pleasure boats, trucks and trailers and modest improvement at shipyards. Machinery payrolls were up 1,600 year to year, reflecting strength in the national capital investment market as manufacturers seek to improve productivity. Export markets for machinery have also improved because of the decline in the value of the dollar relative to foreign currencies.

Aluminum employment added 1,400 jobs over the year with the reopenings of Vancouver and Goldendale smelters. Demand for aluminum has soared in the last year because of the resurgence in the nation's manufacturing industries. Employment at iron foundries, however, was down from August 1987 because of labor disputes. Printing and publishing employment rose 1,700 year to year reflecting the strong growth in the state's economy.

Lumber and wood products (down 1,800) and chemicals (down 1,400) were the only goods-producing industries to report job losses over the year. The drop in lumber was almost entirely due to labor disputes which have now been settled, while the reduction in chemicals occurred entirely at Hanford.

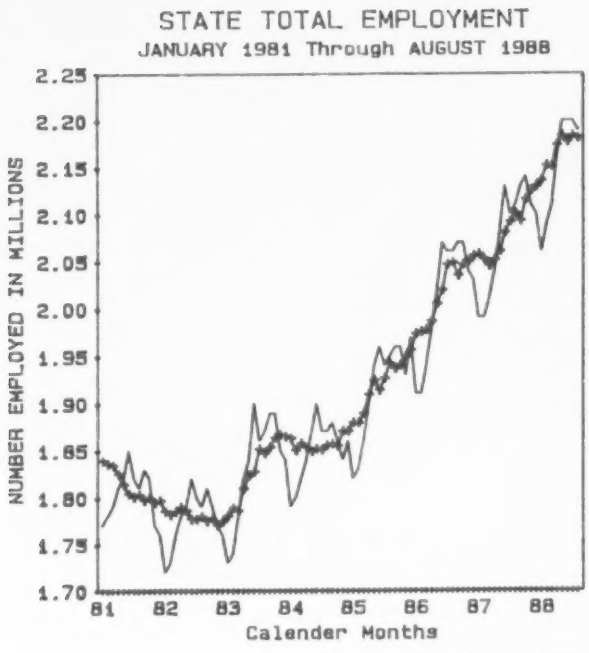
AREA TRENDS

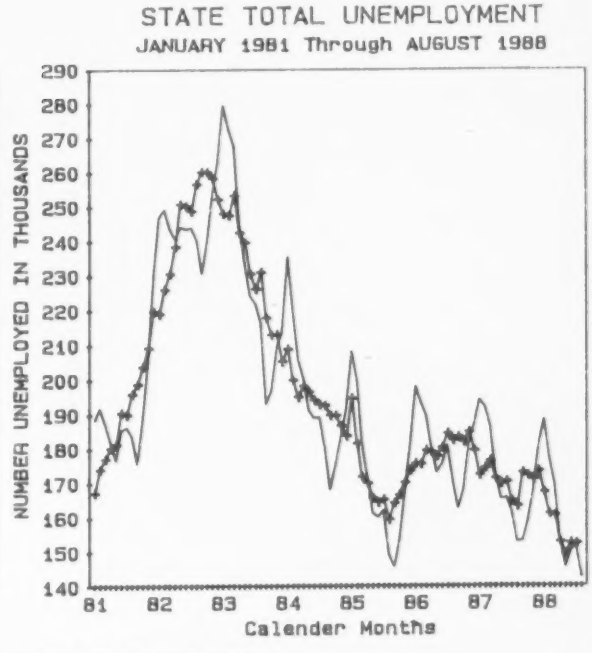
Jobless Rates Vary Widely

Unemployment rates declined in most areas of the state between July and August, but rates ranged widely because of local economic conditions. San Juan County had the lowest rate in August at 2.8 percent while Okanogan County recorded the highest rate in the state at 14.2 percent. Western Washington matched the national civilian average of 5.4 percent, while the rate in the seasonally volatile eastern part of the state was 8.4 percent.

Seattle's Rate Below Five Percent

In the Seattle Metropolitan Area, the unemployment rate fell from 5.2 percent in July to 4.8 percent in August to mark the first time since the late 1960's its rate has fallen below five percent. Obviously Seattle did not turn out the lights when their unemployment rate hit a peak of 13.5 percent in July 1971.





+ SEASONALLY ADJUSTED - NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

Food processing and agriculture played a large role in the changes in Eastern Washington. The processing of summer crops lowered the jobless rate in Adams County from 16.0 percent in July to 9.2 percent in August; the rate in Columbia County fell from 16.3 to 13.5 percent, while Kittitas County saw its rate fall from 9.2 to 7.7 percent. The end of apple thinning and the cherry harvest, however, boosted the jobless rate in the Wenatchee area from 9.9 to 11.6 percent and in Okanogan County from 13.5 to 14.2 percent. Rates in both of these areas should fall dramatically during the apple harvest in September and October.

INDUSTRY NOTES

Lumber Consumption High But Down From 1987

The Western Wood Products Association forecasts softwood lumber consumption in the U.S. will total 47.6 billion board feet in 1988, down from 50.6 billion board feet in 1987 but the second highest year on record. The association forecasts consumption will fall 4.8 percent to 45.33 billion board feet in 1989 because of slightly higher mortgage rates and a resulting decline in single-family housing starts. Housing starts are expected to fall from a total of 1,450,000 units in 1988 to 1,400,000 units in 1989. All of the drop is anticipated in single-family dwellings, which use more lumber per unit than multi-family units. Apartment construction may expand slightly in 1989 as the over-supply of multi-family units built in 1983-1986 is absorbed.

Softwood lumber exports rose 33 percent between the first half of 1987 and 1988 because of the decline in the value of the dollar relative to foreign currencies. Recent strengthening in the dollar, however, is expected to slow exports in the final six months of 1988. For this year, the association believes softwood lumber exports will be up almost 22 percent from 1987. Exports for next year are forecast at 2.7 billion board feet, a near record level but down from the anticipated 2.95 billion board feet in 1988.

Log exports from Pacific ports rose 30 percent in the first half of 1988 but are expected to slow in the final half of the year. Log exports for 1987 from Pacific Ports totaled 3.653 billion board feet (log scale) and are expected to reach 4.0 billion board feet for 1988, up 9.5 percent. In 1989 the

association expects log shipments to return to their 1987 level.

Boeing and Douglas Split Huge Order

Delta Airlines announced orders and options for 215 jetliners valued at over $10 billion in September. The order was split between Boeing and McDonnel Douglas Corp with Boeing receiving orders and options for 75 planes worth nearly $4 billion and Douglas winning orders and options for 140 jets valued at about $6 billion. Firm orders, however, were placed for only 18 planes including nine Boeing 737-300s worth an estimated $700 million and nine of Douglas' new MD-11 tri jets valued at about $900 million.

Forecast of Hanford Cutbacks Lowered

The Department of Energy has revised its estimate of the job loss at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation resulting from the closure of the N Reactor. Earlier this year they had forecast a job loss of 6,400 by the mid-1990s. The forecast was lowered to 5,000 in September because they now expect more workers will be employed cleaning up toxic and radioactive waste on the reservation. The new estimates show 3,000 Hanford jobs will be lost through 1991 with an additional 2,000 workers cut by the mid-1990s.

Funds For Everett Home Port

In September Congress passed and sent to President Reagan legislation appropriating construction funds for the Navy's Everett home port. The legislation stated that the funds may be used for any construction at the Everett Naval Base except the actual dredging and disposal of contaminated sediments. The language was added in response to legal efforts by environmentalists which have stopped all construction at the base. Construction on the uplands of the base should now be able to proceed.

The bill also appropriated funds for other Washington Defense installations including $19 million for Fort Lewis, $17 million for Fairchild Air Force Base (Spokane), $15 million for the Silverdale Strategic Weapons Facility, $13 million for McChord Air Force Base (Tacoma), and 11 million for the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station.

NATIONAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS

Choose Your Weapons

Economic data and interpretations related to the outlook for economic growth, interest rates and inflation appear to satisfy all viewpoints. One New York financial economist summed up the overall outlook by saying "We may or may not be slowing down. I wouldn't jump to conclusions based on the data so far."

Growth in the Gross National Product (GNP) slowed from a 3.4 percent annual rate in the first quarter to 3.0 percent in the second quarter, but the GNP price index moved up from 3.5 to 5.0 percent. The annualized increase in the price index in the second quarter was the largest in six years.

Double Digit Inflation Not Likely

Most analysts doubt inflation will reach the double digit level of a few years ago. The August "Blue Chip" survey of 50 private and academic economists found only two who expected the Consumer Price Index (CPI) to increase by six percent or more in 1989. The average increase expected by the group was 4.9 percent, compared with a projected 4.1 percent for 1988. Most analysts believe that the factors which help boost prices are weaker than in the past. Interest rates are now quicker to respond to inflation and slow economic growth, and wages are now slower in responding to changes in price levels. Wages, if fact, now appear to lag price increases, and wages account for approximately two-thirds of all business costs. In the twelve months ended June 1988, the employment-cost index rose three percent compared with an increase of four percent in the CPI. In addition, cost-of-living adjustments (COLA) have declined in importance. A U.S. Department of Labor Survey of contracts covering 1,000 or more workers found that four out of every ten now include COLAs, down from six of every ten in 1978. Moreover, COLAs now recover less of the increase in prices than before.

Interest Rates to Rise?

A survey of sixteen economists by the Wall Street Journal in September found all but three expect interest rates to be higher by the end of the year. Many of them, however, expect only small increases with slower economic growth next year, moderate inflation and lower interest rates. Most believe that the Federal Reserve will tighten credit, boosting interest rates, after the election to reduce inflationary pressures.

Slower Growth Predicted For 1989

The latest survey by the National Association of Business Economists of economists representing 60 of the nation's largest corporations found 47 percent expect a recession in 1989 (down from 57 percent three months ago), 42 percent anticipate one in 1990, and 11 percent believe a recession is not likely until later. Their median forecast for GNP growth was 3.9 percent for 1988 and 2.3 percent for 1989, while their median forecast for the CPI was 4.4 percent this year and 5.1 percent for 1989. Most of the economists surveyed expect a rise in interest rates through the middle of next year and falling rates after that.

Consumer Confidence Up

The latest survey by the Conference Board, a private research group, of 5,000 U.S. households found consumer confidence rose in August reversing declines of the preceeding two months. The group's consumer confidence index (base 1985) rose to 119.2 in August, up over six points from July. The Conference Board's executive director attributed much of the increase to improved conditions in farm areas resulting from better weather and agricultural support payments. Consumer confidence was also up in the rest of the nation.

Leading Indicators Up In August

The Index of Leading Economic Indicators, the government's main gauge of future economic activity, rose a moderate 0.4 percent in August following a drop of 0.6 in July and an increase of 1.5 percent in June. Many analysts believe the drop in July was a correction from the exceptionally strong increase in June. In any event, the index continued pointing to further growth in the near term.

Of the nine leading economic indicators for which data were available in August, five were up and four declined. Indicators on the positive side were initial claims for unemployment compensation (declined), orders for consumer goods, plant and equipment orders, building permits, and sensitive material prices. Indicators pointing lower were the average workweek of manufacturing production workers, the business delivery index, stock market prices and the money supply.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
(All Items, Urban Consumers, 1982-1984=100)**

	INDEXES			PERCENT CHANGE Year Ending	
	Aug. 1988	July 1988	Aug. 1987	Aug. 1988	July 1988
U.S. City Average	119.0	118.5	114.4	4.0	4.1
	Jan.-June 1988	Jan.-June 1987		Jan.-June '87 to Jan.-June '88	
Seattle*	111.9	108.2		3.4	

* The index for Seattle reflects prices in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties.

** The base period for the index has been changed from 1967=100 to 1982-1984=100. The conversion factors for the All Items, Urban Consumers Indexes on the 1967=100 base are U.S=0.3338279, Seattle=0.3280421.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE & SALARY WORKERS IN WASHINGTON STATE, PLACE OF WORK 1/

(In Thousands)

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED Industry	August 1988 (PREL.)	July 1988 (REV.)	August 1987 (REV.)	July 1987 (REV.)	Numerical Change July 1988 to Aug. 1988	Numerical Change Aug. 1987 to Aug. 1988
TOTAL NONAG. WAGE AND SALARY	1,937.6	1,926.3	1,854.0	1,842.8	11.3	83.6
MANUFACTURING	336.5	331.5	324.4	318.8	5.0	12.1
Durable Goods	237.4	236.2	226.2	224.6	1.2	11.2
Lumber and Wood Products	39.6 3/	39.7 3/	41.4	41.4	-0.1	-1.8
Furniture and Fixtures	3.7	3.7	3.8	3.7	0.0	-0.1
Stone, Clay and Glass	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	0.0	0.0
Primary Metals	12.5 3/	12.4 3/	11.2	11.1	0.1	1.3
Aluminum	8.8	8.7	7.4	7.3	0.1	1.4
Fabricated Metals	11.4	11.1	10.9	10.6	0.3	0.5
Machinery	31.4	31.1	29.8	29.7	0.3	1.6
Machinery (Except Electrical)	17.6	17.4	16.6	16.6	0.2	1.0
Electrical Equipment	13.8	13.7	13.2	13.1	0.1	0.6
Transportation Equipment	115.7	115.2	106.6	105.7	0.5	9.1
Aerospace	101.1	100.7	93.8	93.0	0.4	7.3
Other Transp. Equipment	14.6	14.5	12.8 3/	12.7	0.1	1.8
Instruments and Related	11.1	11.1	10.9	10.9	0.0	0.2
Misc. Manufacturing	5.1	5.0	4.7	4.6	0.1	0.4
Nondurable Goods	99.1	95.3	98.2	94.2	3.8	0.9
Food and Kindred Products	35.5	31.7	35.0	31.2	3.8	0.5
Canned and Preserved Foods	13.8	10.7	13.6	10.3	3.1	0.2
Apparel and Allied Products	6.1	6.0	6.0	5.9	0.1	0.1
Paper and Allied Products	17.1	17.2	16.7	16.8	-0.1	0.4
Printing and Publishing	21.3	21.2	20.2	20.1	0.1	1.1
Chemicals and Allied Products	10.2	10.3	11.6	11.6	-0.1	-1.4
Other Nondurable Goods 2/	8.9	8.9	8.7	8.6	0.0	0.2
MINING and QUARRYING	3.4	3.4	3.0	3.0	0.0	0.4
CONSTRUCTION	109.0	105.3 3/	94.9	92.0 3/	3.7	14.1
TRANSP.,COMM. and UTIL.	106.0	105.2	101.1	100.3	0.8	4.9
WHOLESALE and RETAIL TRADE	484.5 3/	480.2 3/	462.8	460.5	4.3	21.7
Wholesale Trade	117.2	115.8	113.4	111.9	1.4	3.8
Retail Trade	367.3 3/	364.4 3/	349.4	348.6	2.9	17.9
FIN. INS. and REAL ESTATE	110.0	109.8	108.4	108.5	0.2	1.6
SERVICES	448.4	446.3	423.9	420.8	2.1	24.5
Health Services	136.2	136.5	130.8	130.6	-0.3	5.4
GOVERNMENT	339.8	344.6	335.5	338.9	-4.8	4.3
Federal	70.3	70.5	72.1	72.2	-0.2	-1.8
State and Local	269.5	274.1	263.4	266.7	-4.6	6.1
Education	121.0	125.2	118.3	122.8	-4.2	2.7
WORKERS IN LABOR MANAGEMENT DISPUTES	2.5	2.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.4

1/ Excludes proprietors, self-employed, members of armed forces, and private household employees. Includes all full- and part-time wage and salary workers receiving pay during the pay period including the 12th of the month.

2/ Includes textile mill products, rubber and miscellaneous plastic products, petroleum refining and related products, and leather products.

3/ Workers excluded because of involvement in labor-management disputes.

August

STATE OF WASHINGTON 6.1

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

RESIDENT LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT IN WASHINGTON STATE AND LABOR MARKET AREAS

DATE 10/3/88
Benchmark 1987

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	AUGUST 1988 PRELIMINARY 1/				JULY 1988 REVISED 1/				AUGUST 1987 REVISED			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,340,400	2,197,700	142,700	6.1	2,353,600	2,201,800	151,800	6.4	2,270,300	2,117,500	152,800	6.7
Bellingham MSA	61,900	57,900	4,000	6.5	61,600	57,500	4,100	6.7	59,500	55,400	4,100	6.9
Bremerton MSA	73,600	69,500	4,100	5.6	73,600	69,100	4,500	6.1	73,600	69,500	4,100	5.6
Olympia MSA	75,400	70,700	4,700	6.2	76,300	71,200	5,100	6.7	72,800	68,000	4,800	6.6
Seattle PMSA	1,050,100	999,700	50,400	4.8	1,055,300	1,000,500	54,800	5.2	999,500	942,600	56,900	5.7
King County 2/	834,300	794,600	39,700	4.8	838,600	795,300	43,300	5.2	793,800	749,200	44,600	5.6
Snohomish County 2/	215,800	205,100	10,700	5.0	216,800	205,300	11,500	5.3	205,700	193,400	12,300	6.0
Spokane MSA	166,400	156,500	9,900	5.9	167,500	156,800	10,700	6.4	162,800	152,100	10,700	6.6
Tacoma PMSA	247,300	232,000	15,300	6.2	248,200	231,800	16,400	6.6	241,900	224,200	17,700	7.3
Tri-Cities MSA	66,500	60,600	5,900	8.9	69,300	63,300	6,000	8.7	69,600	63,500	6,100	8.8
Benton County 2/	51,000	46,700	4,300	8.4	53,300	48,700	4,600	8.6	53,200	48,900	4,300	8.1
Franklin County 2/	15,700	14,000	1,700	10.8	16,100	14,600	1,500	9.3	16,400	14,600	1,800	11.0
Vancouver PMSA	114,500	108,100	6,400	5.6	114,500	107,600	6,900	6.0	111,200	103,100	8,100	7.3
Yakima MSA	94,800	84,200	10,600	11.2	93,700	83,000	10,700	11.4	95,100	86,800	8,300	8.7
Adams	6,990	6,350	640	9.2	7,140	6,000	1,140	16.0	6,910	6,370	540	7.8
Asotin	9,590	9,100	490	5.1	9,490	8,980	510	5.4	8,320	7,760	560	6.7
Clallam	23,250	21,630	1,620	7.0	23,050	21,250	1,800	7.8	23,370	21,570	1,800	7.7
Columbia	1,560	1,350	210	13.5	1,660	1,390	270	16.3	1,790	1,480	310	17.3
Cowlitz	36,590	34,060	2,530	6.9	37,340	34,470	2,870	7.7	34,770	31,780	2,990	8.6
Ferry	2,720	2,460	260	9.6	2,700	2,450	250	9.3	2,730	2,490	240	8.8
Garfield	1,060	1,020	40	3.8	1,090	1,060	30	2.8	1,060	1,000	60	5.7
Grant	25,630	22,900	2,730	10.7	26,240	23,390	2,850	10.9	25,200	22,860	2,340	9.3
Grays Harbor	24,380	22,120	2,260	9.3	25,120	22,850	2,270	9.0	25,710	23,240	2,470	9.6
Island	19,060	18,210	850	4.5	19,000	18,100	900	4.7	18,830	17,810	1,020	5.4
Jefferson	8,430	7,950	480	5.7	8,220	7,750	470	5.7	8,510	7,960	550	6.5
Kittitas	12,040	11,110	930	7.7	10,920	9,910	1,010	9.2	11,280	10,420	860	7.6
Klickitat	8,090	7,130	960	11.9	8,240	7,360	880	10.7	7,290	6,340	950	13.0
Lewis	25,160	23,170	1,990	7.9	25,280	23,190	2,090	8.3	23,850	21,650	2,200	9.2
Lincoln	4,320	4,150	170	3.9	4,480	4,290	190	4.2	4,380	4,160	220	5.0
Mason	13,040	12,130	910	7.0	12,680	11,690	990	7.8	12,890	12,000	890	6.9
Okanogan	15,990	13,720	2,270	14.2	16,650	14,410	2,240	13.5	16,470	14,440	2,030	12.3
Pacific	6,390	5,850	540	8.5	6,480	5,930	550	8.5	6,740	6,100	640	9.5
Pend Oreille	3,340	2,980	360	10.8	3,400	2,970	430	12.6	3,040	2,580	460	15.1
San Juan	6,340	6,160	180	2.8	6,030	5,840	190	3.2	6,900	6,700	200	2.9
Skagit	35,770	33,210	2,560	7.2	36,790	34,040	2,750	7.5	36,050	33,100	2,950	8.2
Skamania	2,350	2,030	320	13.6	2,390	2,040	350	14.6	2,170	1,850	320	14.7
Stevens	11,500	10,580	920	8.0	11,580	10,610	970	8.4	11,830	10,760	1,070	9.0
Wahkiakum	1,170	1,070	100	8.5	1,170	1,080	90	7.7	1,240	1,140	100	8.1
Walla Walla	22,990	21,620	1,370	6.0	24,150	22,620	1,530	6.3	23,410	21,810	1,600	6.8
Wenatchee Labor Area	44,160	39,050	5,110	11.6	45,050	40,590	4,460	9.9	42,090	38,150	3,940	9.4
Chelan County 2/	30,200	26,430	3,770	12.5	30,850	27,470	3,380	11.0	28,460	25,810	2,650	9.3
Douglas County 2/	13,970	12,630	1,340	9.6	14,190	13,120	1,070	7.5	13,620	12,330	1,290	9.5
Whitman	17,880	17,340	540	3.0	17,310	16,820	490	2.8	17,330	16,780	550	3.2

1/ Estimates provided here are for use as an economic time-series. Official Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates, which must be used for Federal program purposes, are available upon request.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

Washington State
Employment Security Department
Labor Market and Economic Analysis Branch

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR FORCE AND EMPLOYMENT
ESTIMATES FOR FEDERAL PROGRAM PURPOSES

October 3, 1988
Benchmark: 1987

(Not Seasonally Adjusted)

	AUGUST 1988 PRELIMINARY 1/				JULY 1988 REVISED 1/			
	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemp. Rate
Washington State total	2,296,100	2,161,800	134,300	5.8	2,322,800	2,179,000	143,800	6.2
Bellingham MSA	60,800	57,000	3,800	6.3	60,800	56,900	3,900	6.4
Bremerton MSA	72,300	68,400	3,900	5.4	72,500	68,300	4,200	5.8
Olympia MSA	74,100	69,600	4,500	6.1	75,200	70,400	4,800	6.4
Seattle PMSA	1,030,900	983,400	47,500	4.6	1,042,200	990,200	52,000	5.0
King County 2/	819,000	781,600	37,400	4.6	828,000	787,000	41,000	5.0
Snohomish County 2/	211,800	201,700	10,100	4.8	214,000	203,100	10,900	5.1
Spokane MSA	163,300	154,000	9,300	5.7	165,200	155,100	10,100	6.1
Tacoma PMSA	242,600	228,200	14,400	5.9	245,000	229,400	15,600	6.4
Tri-Cities MSA	65,300	59,700	5,600	8.6	68,400	62,700	5,700	8.3
Benton County 2/	49,900	45,900	4,000	8.0	52,500	48,200	4,300	8.2
Franklin County 2/	15,400	13,800	1,600	10.4	15,900	14,500	1,400	8.8
Vancouver PMSA	112,300	106,300	6,000	5.3	113,000	106,500	6,500	5.8
Yakima MSA	92,800	82,800	10,000	10.8	92,400	82,200	10,200	11.0
Adams	6,840	6,240	600	8.8	7,020	5,940	1,080	15.4
Asotin	9,410	8,950	460	4.9	9,360	8,880	480	5.1
Clallam	22,800	21,270	1,530	6.7	22,740	21,030	1,710	7.5
Columbia	1,520	1,320	200	13.2	1,630	1,380	250	15.3
Cowlitz	35,890	33,510	2,380	6.6	36,840	34,120	2,720	7.4
Ferry	2,660	2,420	240	9.0	2,660	2,420	240	9.0
Garfield	1,040	1,000	40	3.8	1,080	1,050	30	2.8
Grant	25,100	22,530	2,570	10.2	25,850	23,150	2,700	10.4
Grays Harbor	23,890	21,760	2,130	8.9	24,760	22,610	2,150	8.7
Island	18,710	17,910	800	4.3	18,760	17,910	850	4.5
Jefferson	8,270	7,820	450	5.4	8,120	7,670	450	5.5
Kittitas	11,800	10,930	870	7.4	10,770	9,810	960	8.9
Klickitat	7,920	7,020	900	11.4	8,110	7,280	830	10.2
Lewis	24,660	22,790	1,870	7.6	24,930	22,950	1,980	7.9
Lincoln	4,250	4,090	160	3.8	4,420	4,240	180	4.1
Mason	12,790	11,930	860	6.7	12,510	11,570	940	7.5
Okanogan	15,630	13,500	2,130	13.6	16,380	14,260	2,120	12.9
Pacific	6,260	5,750	510	8.1	6,390	5,870	520	8.1
Pend Oreille	3,270	2,930	340	10.4	3,350	2,940	410	12.2
San Juan	6,230	6,060	170	2.7	5,960	5,780	180	3.0
Skagit	35,080	32,670	2,410	6.9	36,290	33,690	2,600	7.2
Skamania	2,300	2,000	300	13.0	2,350	2,020	330	14.0
Stevens	11,280	10,410	870	7.7	11,430	10,510	920	8.0
Wahkiakum	1,150	1,050	100	8.7	1,150	1,070	80	7.0
Walla Walla	22,550	21,260	1,290	5.7	23,840	22,390	1,450	6.1
Wenatchee Labor Area	43,230	38,420	4,810	11.1	44,390	40,170	4,220	9.5
Chelan County 2/	29,550	26,000	3,550	12.0	30,390	27,180	3,210	10.6
Douglas County 2/	13,680	12,420	1,260	9.2	14,010	12,990	1,020	7.3
Whitman	17,570	17,060	510	2.9	17,100	16,640	460	2.7

1/ Official U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics data. Data are not comparable with estimates made in previous years.
2/ Estimates are determined by using the Population/Claims Share disaggregation methodology.
Note: Detail may not add due to rounding.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING AND OF NONSUPERVISORY WORKERS IN NONMANUFACTURING ACTIVITIES, STATE OF WASHINGTON

	Prelim Aug Production Workers/ Nonsupervisory Workers	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
		Aug-88	Jul-88	Aug-87	Aug-88	Jul-88	Aug-87	Aug-88	Jul-88	Aug-87
TOTAL MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES*	205,364	$469.65	$475.20	$468.06	39.7	39.6	39.7	$11.83	$12.00	$11.79
SELECTED MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Lumber and Wood Products	34,215 **	$419.77	$426.38	$399.65	38.3	37.9	36.8	$10.96	$11.25	$10.86
Primary Metal Industries	10,003 **	$539.68	$536.98	$545.75	42.9	43.2	43.8	$12.56	$12.43	$12.46
Fabricated Metal Products	8,936	$444.17	$449.80	$435.89	39.8	39.7	40.1	$11.16	$11.33	$10.87
Machinery	19,579	$363.83	$371.67	$375.96	38.5	39.0	39.7	$9.45	$9.53	$9.47
Food and Kindred Products	27,150	$368.25	$372.67	$353.25	37.5	36.5	37.7	$9.82	$10.21	$9.37
Chemical and Allied Products	4,167	$594.50	$604.80	$605.82	41.0	40.7	42.1	$14.50	$14.86	$14.39
Transportation Equipment	51,283	$581.63	$585.75	$603.50	42.3	42.6	42.5	$13.75	$13.75	$14.20
SELECTED NONMANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES										
Construction	82,739	$592.85	$594.83	$596.43	36.8	37.2	37.3	$16.11	$15.99	$15.99
Wholesale and Retail Trade (does not include eating and drinking establishments)	296,431 **	$316.14	$319.79	$322.23	33.0	32.9	34.5	$9.58	$9.72	$9.34

* Average hourly earnings for all manufacturing production workers reported in this table do not exactly reflect the official US Bureau of Labor Statistics definition of "wages." While these data still constitute a valid economic indicator series, they should not be used at this time for the negotiation of contracts whose monetary provisions may depend upon official US Bureau of Labor Statistics hourly earning data.

** Affected by labor-management disputes.

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